

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re U.S. Patent Application of )

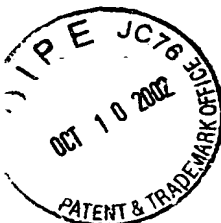
OKANO et al. )

Application Number: 10/018,430 )

Filed: December 20, 2001 )

For: CENTRIFUGAL SEPARATOR AND SAMPLE )  
PREPARATION DEVICE USING THE SEPARATOR )

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. NITT.0050 )



Honorable Assistant Commissioner  
for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in the above-identified patent application. A listing of documents to be published on the face of any patent granted from this application is submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449. Any other documents or information submitted for consideration by the Examiner are listed in this paper. A copy of each U.S. and foreign patent, or each publication or portion thereof listed or herein identified, is submitted herewith.

**CERTIFICATION**

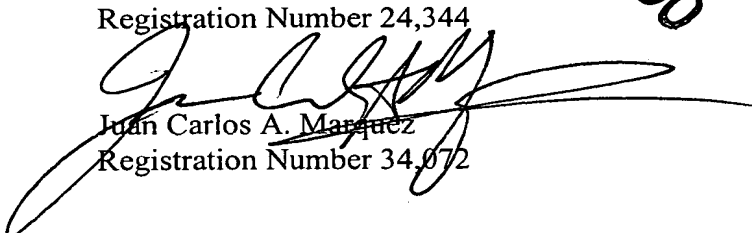
This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after three months of the filing date but prior to the mailing date of the first Office Action of the above-captioned U.S. patent application. Accordingly, no fee is due or payable at this time.

The Examiner is requested to acknowledge consideration of the information provided in this paper in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments in connection with this paper to Deposit Account No. 08-1480.

Respectfully submitted,

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**October 10, 2002**

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